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# Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /093 W
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P R 201600Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5471
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1068

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, RH, US, UK
SUBJ: ZAMBIAN PRESS HIGHLIGHTS PF REJECTION OF OWEN PROPOSAL

REF: (A) LUSAKA 1051; (B) LUSAKA 0748 (NOTAL)

1. ZAMBIAN PRESS APRIL 20 CAME OUT STRONGLY IN SUPPORT OF NKOMO/MUGABE NEGATIVE REACTION TO OWEN MISSION AND TO U.S. CO-SPONSORING A CONFERENCE (REFTEL A). DAILY MAIL BANNER HEADLINE SAID, "FRONT THROWS OUT BRITISH PROPOSAL", SUB-HEADED, 'WE DON'T NEED U.S. IN OUR TALKS' WHILE TIMES OF ZAMBIA HEADLINED "FRONT REJECTS U.S. ROLE IN RHODESIA."

2. ON PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S PLANE RETURNING FROM LUANDA APRIL 29 GRZ FOREIGN MINISTER MWALE TOLD PRESS THE FRONTLINE HAD MAPPED OUT A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE ARMED CONFLICT
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AT LAUNDA. STRATEGY HAD BEEN WORKED OUT IN THE WAKE OF THE "SO-CALLED EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES OF THE IMPERIALISTS." FRONTLINE MEETING HAD BEEN MORE CONSTRUCTIVE THAN THE "IDEAS OF DR. OWEN WHICH HE HAS BEEN THROWING AROUND." OWEN MISSION HAD BEEN TO THROW OUT FEELERS TO OBTAIN REACTION TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE. EVENTS HAVE PAST MUCH AN APPROACH BY. MWALE SAID, "DR. OWEN IS BEHIN
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TIME WHEN HE TALKS ABOUT PEACE IN ZIMBABWE. WE HAVE TRIED
PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS BUT THEY HAVE FAILED."

3. ZAMBIA'S TWO DAILIES PLAYED UP MUGABE AND NKOMO'S REJECTION
AT THEIR APRIL 19 MEETING WITH THE PRESS OF U.S. DIRECT PARTICIPATION
IN A NEW CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA (REFTEL A). ACCOUNTS FOCUSED ON
PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS' STATEMENT THAT THE DURATION OF ANY
CONFERENCE SHOULD BE SHORT AND THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS LIMITED.
ALSO RECEIVING PROMINENT COVERAGE WAS THE PF'S THREAT TO FIGHT
AGAINST ANY REGIME (SUCH AS ONE LED BY MUZOREWA) PLACED IN
POWER THROUGH A BRITISH-SMITH MANOEUVRE.

4. HEWING TO THE MUGABE/NKOMO PRESS CONFERENCE LINE THE DAILY
MAIL EDITORIAL APRIL 20 SAID:

--- OWEN MADE THE SAME MISTAKE AS KISSINGER
TREATING THE PF LAST AND CASUALLY AS IF THEY WERE ONLOOKERS,
RATHER THAN THE MAIN PARTICIPANTS, IN THE RHODESIAN WAR.

--- U.S. PARTICIPATION IN A CONFERENCE IS NOT DESIRABLE BECAUSE
IT WOULD INTERNATIONALIZE THE RHODESIAN CONFLICT.

--- PARTIES OTHER THAN SMITH AND THE BRITISH SHOULDN'T PARTICIPATE
IN A CONFERENCE BECAUSE THEIR AIMS ARE NOT THOSE OF THE FRONT AND
THE PARTICIPATION OF IRRELEVANCIES, I.E., MUZOREWA AND THE CHIEFS,
WOULD ONLY POLLUTE THE AIR OF THE CONFERENCE.

--- IF THE U.S. AND BRITAIN SUPPORT THE INSTALLATION OF A STOOGE
IN RHODESIA, THEY WILL END THEIR INFLUENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
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AAA THE KEY TO THE STABILITY, UNITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE
IS THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE PF.

--- THE UNITY OF THE PF SHOULD BE ACCEPTED AS A GIVEN
SINCE ITS LEADERS SAY IT SO, AND, NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKS,
SMITH CAN'T WIN SO THE FRONT CAN AFFORD TO DICTATE THE PACE.
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# Message Attributes

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**Subject:** ZAMBIAN PRESS HIGHLIGHTS PF REJECTION OF OWEN PROPOSAL
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOPN, RH, US, UK, (OWEN, DAVID)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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